

substrate of the optical disc which is formed of a plastic, the inner diameter portion and outer diameter portion of the disc present optical inconsistency owing to the differences in resin temperature, cooling time, etc. The deviations of the recording characteristics incited due to the inconsistent substrate and varied thickness of the recording layer currently satisfy the stipulated standard of using the disc, which, however, are required to be improved in the aspect of reliability.

Therefore, a lot of endeavors has been made until now for securing the consistency. Nevertheless, the thickness variation of the recording layer shows a deviation of  $\pm 2\%$  currently. Additionally, it is a general point of view that the inconsistency is difficult to be completely solved.

As described above, the optical disc allots the spare areas of the prescribed rate (approximately 5.7%) with respect to overall zone capacity in setting the recording area. As described with reference to FIG. 2, the optical disc is inconsistent thickness throughout it to involve the inconsistency resulting from the varied thickness in the lengthwise direction of the radius. Consequently, since the defect occurring rates at specific points of the optical disc are respectively differed from one another, a specific zone cannot be used further if the defect within the corresponding zone is increased to employ all replaceable spare areas. For this reason, overall disc may not be used to incur a problem of lacking

in reliability of the disc due to the increase of the defective portions.

Please replace the ink-smeared paragraphs on page 5, line 5-21, with the following legible paragraphs:

Also, a method for setting spare areas of an optical disc for preparing a liably-occurring recording error due to a defect of said optical disc, wherein the method for setting said spare areas of the optical disc is preformed by variably setting the spare area rates of which size rates are variably set in the radius direction of the optical disc.

In the optical disc formed according to the present invention in view of the above construction, the spare area rates provided for respective zones are not constantly allotted per zone, but are variably provided per zone to enable to deal with a liably-occurring defect in accordance with the thickness variation of the disc, thereby improving overall reliability of the disc.

#### Brief Description of the Drawings

The above objects and other advantages of the present invention will become more apparent by describing in detail preferred embodiments thereof with reference to the attached drawings in which:

FIG. 1 is a view showing a format of a general optical disc;  
and